

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed June 30, 2008, claims 1-11 were rejected. In response, Applicant filed a response on September 2, 2008. Subsequently, the Examiner issued an Advisory Action mailed on October 3, 2008, in which the Examiner indicated that Applicant's reply has overcome the rejections of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). The Examiner also indicated that the Examiner requires an amendment to present claim 11 in conventional method form. Applicant hereby requests reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the below-provided remarks. No claims are added or canceled.

For reference, claim 11 is amended to present the claim in conventional method form. Although the Examiner does not specifically indicate what is considered to be in conformance with U.S. practice, it appears from the Examiner's remarks that the Examiner would prefer limitations to be recited as positive actions, rather than as "wherein" clauses. Consequently, amendments to claim 11 are presented which are believed to be consistent with the Examiner's request. These amendments are supported by the original language of the claims, as well as the subject matter described in the specification.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in the Office Action mailed June 30, 2008, as being unpatentable over Wood, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,466,771, hereinafter Wood) in view of MacLellan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,940,006, hereinafter MacLellan).

Since the Examiner has indicated that Applicant's reply overcame the rejections of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), and no new rejections have been issued, Applicant respectfully requests that a notice of allowance be issued for claims 1-10 of the present application.

Additionally, in light of the amendments presented herein for claim 11, Applicant also requests that a notice of allowance be issued for claim 11 of the present application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and the remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account **50-4019** pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees to Deposit Account **50-4019** under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21.

Respectfully submitted,

/mark a. wilson/

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